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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Agenda item 7
World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair

Outcomes of the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and the Abu Dhabi declaration

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[1] adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, in which Member States recommended that the General Assembly should hold a special session to address the world drug problem,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

Welcoming the decision made by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014 that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should lead the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner,

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

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Resolving to continue to support and contribute to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016, in view of the request made by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolution 56/10 of 15 March 2013, to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard,

Noting the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that were held in 2015, namely the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, held in Brussels from 22 to 25 June, the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Algiers from 14 to 18 September, the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, from 5 to 9 October, the Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 19 to 22 October, and the fiftieth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, held in Abu Dhabi from 8 to 12 November,

1. *Takes note* of the outcomes adopted by those meetings of the subsidiary bodies;[2]

2. *Also takes note* of the Abu Dhabi declaration of the States members participating in the fiftieth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, held in Abu Dhabi from 8 to 12 November, which is annexed to the present resolution.

[2] E/CN.7/2016/10.

Annex

Abu Dhabi declaration

We, the representatives of States members of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, gathered at the fiftieth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, held in Abu Dhabi from 8 to 12 November 2015,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[a] in which it was recognized that the world drug problem remained a common and shared responsibility that required effective and increased international cooperation and demanded an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

Gravely concerned about the growing threat posed by the drug problem to the region,

Recalling that the three international drug conventions are the cornerstone of international drug control policy,

Also recalling that the use and possession, including possession for personal consumption, of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances shall be limited to medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with the international drug control framework,

Reaffirming the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity of States and non-intervention, as well as the principle of common and shared responsibility, when addressing the world drug problem,

Have agreed to make the following recommendations:

(a) Governments should take into account regional perspectives on and approaches to addressing the world drug problem, with full respect for the cultural and religious specificities of each region;

(b) Governments are encouraged to oppose any form of legalization of drugs, in accordance with the three international drug conventions, and to gain an in-depth understanding of the causes and various aspects of the world drug problem, to ensure an efficient way of addressing it;

(c) The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices should maintain their leading role in providing capacity-building coordination and technical assistance to Member States in countering the world drug problem at the national, regional and interregional levels;

(d) In the Near and Middle East, priority attention should be given to addressing the production of, trafficking in and consumption of illicit drugs affecting the region, in particular opiates, cocaine, amphetamine-type stimulants, including new psychoactive substances and Captagon, and tramadol;

[a] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

(e) Coordination among regional law enforcement information centres, such as the Criminal Information Centre to Combat Drugs of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre and the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime, should be encouraged under the "networking the networks" initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(f) Governments are encouraged to improve access to quality drug dependence treatment services and ensure access to essential psychotropic and narcotic drugs for medical purposes while preventing their diversion and abuse;

(g) In addressing money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from illicit drug trafficking, Governments are encouraged to strengthen national coordination between their counter-narcotics law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units in responding to international requests for mutual legal assistance.